

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 144

By Clabough

A RESOLUTION To honor and commend Mr. Neal Ozeki for
laudable service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, It is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, One such noteworthy person is Mr. Neal Ozeki, President of DENSO Manufacturing Tennessee, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, A 1963 graduate of Meiji University's Department of Commercial Science, Mr. Ozeki started his lucrative career as an Entry Specialist for Nippondenso Co. Limited, and has worked in numerous management positions, including such places as Takatana Manufacturing in Japan, Poong Sung Precision in South Korea, and in the International Education Section of the Personnel Department at DENSO Japan; in 1989, he came to the United States, moving to Battlecreek, Michigan, as the Executive Vice President at Nippondenso Manufacturing USA; and

WHEREAS, Since that time, he has continuously climbed the corporate ladder, impressing everyone in his wake; in 1993, Mr. Ozeki became the General Manager of the

Planning Center 2 at DENSO Japan; less than three years later he was promoted to General Project Manager for the Electronics Systems in the Business Planning Center at DENSO Japan and in February 1999 became the President of DENSO Manufacturing Tennessee, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, As President of DENSO Manufacturing Tennessee, Inc., Mr. Ozeki has assiduously led his industry to a sales of \$1.3 billion, by supplying more than 700 Tennessee vendors, amassing a payroll of \$110 million, and by helping the communities of Maryville and Athens by contributing to their local tax bases in the neighborhood of \$4.7 million on just property taxes alone; and

WHEREAS, Of the 2,831 East Tennesseans he has employed through DENSO, 2,271 of those associates work in Blount County, as DENSO is the largest employer in Blount County. DENSO supplies more than 100 Blount County vendors and expends roughly \$5.18 million within those borders of the county; and

WHEREAS, Though he was born in Kariya-shi, Aichi-ken, Japan, Mr. Ozeki epitomizes the spirit and commitment to excellence that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, This General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Mr. Neal Ozeki for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens as President of DENSO Manufacturing Tennessee, Inc.; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Mr. Neal Ozeki for his meritorious service to the State of Tennessee and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.